

its limbs, and was composed of the three factors of truthfulness, charity and compassion. Kfcn were devoted to the performances of religious sacrifices ;. and the earth was peopled by xnen of Kshatriya extraction in that cycle of Treta. The ted-complexioned Hari was worshipped by the people of that age, and the duration ofc human life was one thousand years- Bhimaratha of Kshatriya extraction, who was an incarnation of Visimu, killed many Rakshasas. in tie Treta Yuga. I;n the cycle of D,vapara, \%Ken. the yellow-corn-, plexioned Achyu.ta was the protector of virtues, the duration of. human life was fourteen hundred years, and men born of Br^hmaia ajid Kshatriya parents, peopled the earth. The -gad Vishnu, incarnate in, the shape of the holy Yy&sa, considering the smallness of human intellect (comparative dylntss of, human, memory) at the time_k divided, the Veda, into four parts,-and taught them to his. own disciples in the following order, viz^ he taught the-Rik Veda to Pajja;. the Sim a Veda, to Jaimini;; the Athancaa, t<x Supaanta; and the 'ijajur Veda, to Mahzununi* To Vaisham-payana he taught the Putnam ; apd tlie eighteen Puranas, to, \$uta, by reading which one is enabled to know the god Hari» A Puraiianv, treats, of: five topics, such, a&, the creation,, of the universe (Sarga^ dissolution of the universe (Prati-sarga), geneologies. of kings, specific traits of the different-cycles of time as represented by the different Lawgivers,

and the anjiate of royal progeny. The eighteen
 Mjahi (great)
 I?uras axe the Brdhmam, P&dinam,
 Vaishnavam, Shaivam,.
 Bhigayatam, Bhayishyam, N,aradiyam, S4<a-
 ndam,. Laingam,
 Yarahajcam, MArkand^yam, Agneyam,
 Brahma-Vaivartaro,.
 I^aurmam, IVLatsyam, G.arudam, and
 Brahmindam Purinas.
 The other minor Pur4nas,. narrated by the holy
 sages,, are the
 Sanat-kumaram, Ndrsинham. Purinam, Sk^ndam,
 as. narrate A
 v by the god Kumara, Shiva-Dharmaksham,
 directly narrated)
 by Nandisha, the Purinam of wonderful
 incidents narrated
 , by the holy Durv^sa, the one narrated by the
 holy